

Room and Board Assistance ProgramA. Eligibility Conditions for Optional Supplementary Payments**OFFICIAL**

The Room and Board Assistance (RBA) Program provides optional state supplementary payments to eligible persons aged sixty-five or over, blind, or disabled who are unable to reside in their own homes due to a mental or physical disability but who do not meet the level of care provided in a licensed nursing home. In order for an individual to receive supplementary payments under the Room and Board Assistance program he/she must be residing in a licensed residential facility or licensed boarding home for the aged that is approved by the State Department of Public Welfare.

Optional supplementary payments are made to otherwise eligible individuals who cannot meet the cost of room and board in an approved facility. The State payment supplements Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits and other personal income and is to be applied toward payment of room and board charges. Eligible individuals may retain \$33.50 of their monthly income for personal needs and may be eligible for a State payment of up to \$33.50 per month if they do not have sufficient income to meet such needs.

Applications for assistance and eligibility determinations are handled by the County Welfare Department located in the county in which the individual resides or plans to reside. Medicaid financial eligibility determinations for aged, blind, or permanently and totally disabled persons are based on the criteria employed by the State for Standard Resource Allowance and Personal Property as set forth in Attachment 2.6-A pages 3-A through 3-C of this Plan.

B. Medical Assistance Coverage Conditions

1. Available on a Regular Basis. Supplementary payments are made on a continuous monthly basis for as long as the individual continues to meet all eligibility requirements.
2. Paid in Cash. Supplementary payments are paid in cash directly to the eligible individual.
3. Based on Need. All individuals eligible for supplementary payments under the Room and Board Assistance program must meet the resource requirement specified in Attachment 2.6-A of this Plan and they may not have sufficient income to meet the cost of their room and board care in an approved facility.
4. Paid to a Reasonable Group. Supplementary payments under the Room and Board Assistance program are paid to all otherwise eligible aged, blind, and disabled persons residing in residential care facilities or boarding homes for the aged licensed by the Indiana State Board of Health which are, in addition, approved for participation in the Room and Board Assistance program.

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5. Paid to Persons Who Would be Eligible for SSI Except for Income. All persons who qualify for Medicaid as optional supplement payment recipients must also meet the categorical eligibility requirements as aged, blind, or permanently and totally disabled individuals as well as more restrictive resource requirement used under Indiana's Medical Assistance Program. A disregard of \$33.50 for personal needs is allowed for each recipient.
  6. Available Statewide. Room and Board Assistance payments are available throughout the state to all aged, blind, and disabled individuals residing in approved facilities who qualify financially with regard to income and resources.
  7. Equal 100% of Need. Cash assistance is paid in an amount which in combination with the individuals's personal income, less disregard, equals the full amount of the approved facility's monthly charge for room and board care (\$375 monthly maximum).

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